

Carole Payen, *Aux Confins du Hainaut, de la Flandre et du Brabant: Le Bailliage d'Enghien dans la tourmente iconoclaste. Étude de la répression des troubles religieux à la lumière des archives du conseil des troubles et des comptes de confiscation* (Anciens Pays et assemblées d'états CIX), Courtrai-Heule, 2013. ISBN 978-90-8977-272-5

This small but meticulously researched monograph sheds light on the repression of iconoclasm in the Habsburg Low Countries under King Philip II. Evidently, many historians have written about the military and punitive mission of the Duke of Alba, including his inauguration of an exceptional and temporary tribunal called the Council of Troubles (and nicknamed the Council of Blood). Still, this book brings this well-known story from the local perspective of Enghien, a *bailliage* within the French-speaking province of Hainaut, at an internal border with Flanders and Brabant, other provinces under Habsburg rule. Though captured in the title, the author seems less interested in this borderland perspective, even if transregional history has opened up many novel insights for reformation studies. Instead, the author focuses on the political and juridical format of the repression, in which 112 inhabitants of Enghien became convicted for deeds committed during the iconoclastic fury of 1566. She brilliantly succeeds in describing the procedures of confiscation, and analyses in great detail the documents left behind in the archives of the (jurisdictional) Council of Troubles, the (financial) *Chambres des Comptes* and local (political) administrations. Keeping up with the latest developments in the historiography about the Dutch Revolt, she also takes care to unravel the occasional recuperation of these goods after reconciliations with King and Church, showing the alternation between punishing and pardoning in the Habsburg pacification policies, and its practical and economic implications for many individuals and families in the Low Countries. This microhistory thus provides a good read both for those interested in the religious history of the Low Countries, and for those searching for the juridical repercussions of iconoclasm in early modern Europe.

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